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Date: OCTOBER 26, 2004

To: EXAMINER KANG, D.
U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Fax #: (703) 827-9318

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Client/Matter No.: CML00635AT (9645/122)

of Pages: 13
(including cover sheet)

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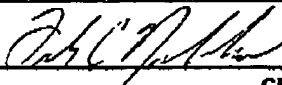
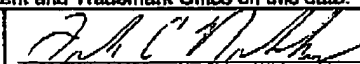
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TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Attorney Docket No.	CML00639AT (9645/122)
	Application Number	10/611,546
	Filing Date	JULY 1, 2003
	First Named Inventor	TIMOTHY B. DEAN
	Group Art Unit	2811
	Examiner	KANG, D

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Response to Non Final Office Action Dated July 26, 2004 <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request (duplic) <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement and PTO-1449 <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application) <input type="checkbox"/> Drawings: <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Patent Routing Slip (PTO/SP-69) and Accompanying Pediton <input type="checkbox"/> To Convert a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Request of Refund	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Post Card Receipt <input type="checkbox"/> Additional Enclosure(s) (please identify below). <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
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				Small Entity		Large Entity	
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Indep	Minus		0	x \$44=	0	x \$88=	
First Presentation of Multiple Dep. Claim				+ \$150=	—	+ \$300=	
				total add'l fee	\$ 0	total add'l fee	\$ 0

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT			
Firm or Individual name	FRANK C. NICHOLAS Registration No. 33,983 CARDINAL LAW GROUP 1603 Orrington Avenue, Suite 2000 Evanston, IL 60201		
Signature		Date	October 26, 2004
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Signature	 FRANK C. NICHOLAS (33,983)	Date	October 26, 2004

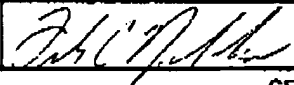
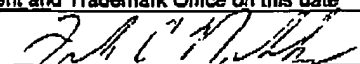
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	Application Number	10/611,546
	Filing Date	JULY 1, 2003
	First Named Inventor	TIMOTHY B. DEAN
	Group Art Unit	2811
	Examiner	KANG, D

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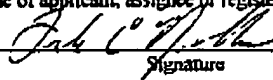
				Small Entry		or	Large Entry	
	Claims After Amendment		Highest No Previously Paid For	Present Extra	Rate	Add'l Fee	Rate	Add'l Fee
Total		Minus		0	x \$9=	0	x \$18=	
Indep		Minus		0	x \$44=	0	x \$88=	
First Presentation of Multiple Dep. Claim					+ \$150=	—	+ \$300=	
					total add'l fee		total add'l fee	
					\$ 0		\$ 0	

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT			
Firm or Individual name	FRANK C. NICHOLAS Registration No. 33,883 CARDINAL LAW GROUP 1603 Orrington Avenue, Suite 2000 Evanston, IL 60201		
Signature		Date	October 26, 2004
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FRANK C. NICHOLAS (33 983)
Name of applicant, assignee or registered representative

Signature
October 26, 2004
Date of Signature

PATENT
Case No.: CML00635AT
(9645/122)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:)	
)	
TIMOTHY B. DEAN, ET AL.)	Examiner: Kang, D.
)	
Serial No.: 10/611,546)	Group Art Unit: 2811
)	
Filed: JULY 1, 2003)	
)	
Title: ACTIVATION PLATE FOR)	
ELECTROLESS AND IMMERSION)	
PLATING OF INTEGRATED CIRCUITS)	

RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED JULY 26, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22202-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to a Non-Final Office Action dated July 26, 2004, the Applicants
respond as follows:

October 25, 2004
Case No.: CML00635AT (9645/122)
Serial No.: 10/611,546
Filed: July 1, 2003
Page 2 of 10

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

The present amendment replies to an Office Action dated July 26, 2004. Claims 1-25 are currently pending in the present application. Examiner Kang rejected claims 17-25.

In the Office Action, Examiner Kang asserted the following actions to pending claims 17-25:

- A. Claims 17-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement
- B. Claims 17-23 and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by Ling et al (US 2002/0096765)
- C. Claims 17 and 24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Takase et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,028,011)

The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and further examination of the present application under 37 CFR § 1.112.